प्रतिवादी-विकासशील

मलेशिया, पोलीथीलीन, तथा पोलीप्रापीलीन, (डी एस 1) ब्राजील, नारियल (फिलीपीन्स) (डी एस 22), वेनेजुएला, ओसीटीजी (डी एस 23), तुर्की, वस्त्र (डी एस 29, डी एस 34, डी एस 47) ब्राजील, नारियल (श्री लंका) (डी एस 30) ग्वाटेमाला, सीमेंट (डी एस 60)

पेत्र, प्रतिकारी शुल्क जांच (बर्से) (डी एस 112) अर्जेनटीना, इमदाद (फुटवियर) (डी एस 123) ग्वटिमाला, सीमेंट (डी एस 156)

विकसित तथा विकासशील देशों के सदस्यों द्वारा शिकायतें (4 मामले/10 अनुरोध)

ई०सी०, स्कैल्लप्स, (डीएस 7, डीएस 12, डीएस ई०सी, ग्रेन्स (डीएस 9, डीएस 13, डी एस 17, डीएस 25), ई०सी०, केले (डीएस 16, डीएस 21) हंगरी, निर्यात इमदाद (डीएस 35)

अलग-अलग मामलों की कुल सं० 120

परामर्श अनुरोधों की कुल सं० 157

Trade Deficit Study

644. SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made a serious study of the huge trade deficit and its adverse effects on the economy;

(b) if so, the measures taken or proposed to be taken to augment the exports;

(c) whether any specific policies have been formulated to boost the exports of the small scale sector products; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of measures have already been taken to augment exports. These include bringing down the rate of interest on export credit from 11% to 9%, strengthening the existing export incentive schemes, simplification of procedures and addressing sector specific issues. Policy review is a continuous process and is based on interaction with trade and industry associations.

(c) and (d) Through the changes introduced in the Export Import Policy during the current year, the Government has addressed the long standing demand of the small exporters such as simplifying and expanding the scope of zero duty. Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme. The threshold limit has now been reduced from Rs. 20 crores/Rs. 5 crores to Rs. 1 crore. Further private bonded warehouse scheme has been initiated to facilitate supply of imported raw materials to exporters importing raw materials in small quantities. Double weightage on FOB or NFE on the exports of products manufactured by Units in the small scale sectors is given for the purpose of recognition of Export Houses/ Trading Houses etc. Eligibility for Special Import Licence has been reduced for small scale exporters holding IS/ISO 9000 (Series) of quality certification.

Export from Rajasthan

645. SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of jewellery, ready made garments, handicrafts and other items exported from Rajasthan during the last financial year; and

(b) what measures are being taken by Government for export promotion, particularly in more backward state of Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Ministry of Commerce maintains export data for the country as a whole and not State-wise.

(b) Central Government evolves plans and formulates its export policy to promote export of various items and products from all States/Union Territories of India including Rajasthan. Under the Critical Infrastructure Balance scheme following

proposals of Rajasthan Government have been approved:

(i) Establishment of an Earth Station at Sitapur,

(ii) Construction/development of Dharuhera-Bhiwadi road,

(iii) Establishment of Centre for Development of Stones, Jaipur.

The Government has approved an Air Cargo Complex at Jaipur, One Export Promotion Industrial Park (E.P.I.P.) has been set up at Sitapur in Jaipur Distt. and Government has accorded approval, in principle, for setting up second E.P.I.P. at Tapukara, near Bhiwadi. Nine Inland Container Depots/Container Freight Stations have been sanctioned by the Government at Jaipur (2), Jodhpur, Udaipur, Kota, Bhilwara, Bhiwadi, Sri Ganganager and Abu Road. A wood seasoning plant and Common Facility Centre is being set up at Jodhpur for enhancing the quality of wooden handicrafts export.

Import of Sugar from Pakistan

646. SHRI K. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government imported huge quantities of sugar from Pakistan;

(b) what was the rationale for these imports;

(c) whether this has not hurt our own sugar industry; and

(d) whether all this has not cost us an additional sugar subsidy of Rs. 500 crores?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) Government has not imported any sugar either in this financial year or in the last year on its account. However, under the current Export-Import Policy, the imports of sugar are free and are undertaken by private parties keeping their commercial interest in view.

(c) Representations were received from the sugar industry for enhancement of import duty. Keeping all factors in view, the import duty on sugar was raised from 5% to 20% alongwith continuance of countervailing duty (CVD) of Rs. 850 per tonne w.e.f. 13.1.99.

(d) No, Sir.

Export of Wheat to Bangladesh

647. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has exported wheat to Bangladesh during the last one year;

(b) if so, the quantity exported;

(c) whether this export has had any adverse effect on the availability and the prices of wheat and its by-products in India; and

(d) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) A total quantity of 217 MT of wheat valued at Rs. 14.87 lakh (provisional) has been exported to Bangladesh during April-November, 1998.

(SOURCE: DGCI&S, Calcutta)

(c) and (d) Export of meagre quantities of wheat is unlikely to have any adverse impact on availability and prices of wheat and its products in the domestic market.

Ban on Export of Onions

648. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had put a ban on export of onions last year;

(b) whether some State Governments have requested the Government to lift the ban; and

(c) whether Government have acceded to their request and lifted the ban?